

## Standing Before The Lord (Zechariah 3:1-7)

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## Standing before the Lord Zechariah 3:1-7

I haven't had to stand trial in a court of law very often in my life. There was one time when I was a student in NC. I got a speeding ticket. I was told that if I went to court, I would still have to pay the ticket but it would not go on my record making my insurance go up. I will never forget the fear that I experienced standing before that Judge. The police officer that gave me the ticket was there. The Judge was stern w/ me. I was completely guilty all I could do was agree with the charges. Here

in our text we find Joshua the high priest not in traffic court, not even at the supreme court, but we find him in the supreme court of the universe, standing before Almighty God. What a place of terror and panic! And not only is he standing by himself before the Holy God of the universe, but Satan is there as the prosecuting attorney. Talk about a no win situation. As hard as it is to fathom as this scene may be, it will one day be the reality.

## I. The Guilt of the Sinner vs I

Basically there are three Characters here. God Joshua + Satan vs I said that Satan was standing at Joshua's

right hand.

### A. The Accuser of Joshua (vs 1) -

Joshua + Satan standing before God. Says to resist Him. Resist = to accuse to be the adversary of. In the Bible Satan is the accuser & adversary. Satan = one who goes up against Rev 12:10 he is called the accuser of the brethren. He points out our sins before God. He tempts us to sin and when we do he is sure to point it out before God. The type to push us in the mud hole the blame us for being dirty. All thru time and history his methods haven't changed. Tempt, Trips, traps, <sup>Taunt</sup> Trance

### B. The Accusation Against Joshua (vs 3)

Satan's job of accusation wasn't difficult at all, Everyone in the court room knew he was guilty. Satan has an air tight case against Joshua. vs 3 said he was filthy dirty, he was guilty. We don't hear a peep out of Joshua, not a word in self defense because all of Satan's accusations were true.

John 8:44. Satan is a liar but you can be sure he tells God the truth about us. Always remember! Whenever Satan talks to us about God he lies (God doesn't love or care, Bible not true) but

### II. The Grace of the Saviour - up to this point only 2 people have been talking. But now we are going to hear from Joshua's attorney vs 2. Joshua's Attorney is none

1) ...be the reality of every person in this room. It will be a court scene with no jury, no deliberation, no cross examination. Therefore we ought to study what goes on in the court case of Joshua to prepare for our own court date. First of all I want you to see...

- 2) John 8: ...when he (devil) speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.
- 3) ...but when ever he talks to God about us he tells the truth.



1) Talk about a fixed case. In verse 2 the case begins to take a radical turn. Still no word out of Joshua but the Lord begins to speak on Joshua's behalf. 1 John 2:1 *My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:* He's got an advocate a lawyer pleading his case and Jesus have never ever lost a case. And now Satan is the one with nothing to say!

2) Isaiah 61:10 *I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels.*

3) 1 Peter 2:9 *But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:*

other than the Judge himself. Talk about a

A. He Cleansed Him - in verse 3 Joshua is describes as clothed in filthy garments. Word filthy = covered in human waste, excrement <sup>what</sup> a repulsive scene. Sin is always repulsive to

God. God sees the slime of our sexuality, the filth of our fornication, the blackness of our blasphemy. Yet what does he do? v54 Take away... No new Eulach Just as guilty! Why Grace! Brand pluck... He cleanse

B. He Clothed Him - He removed his garments but he also replaced them. New garments. God went to his very own closet and clothed him w/ his own garments. Prodigal son - Bring the best robe

Is 61:10 When we stood before God in our sins, humbled ourselves before him God graciously clothes and cleanses us makes us accepted in his sight, not by the filthy rags of works but <sup>His mercy</sup> ~~cause of~~

C. He Crowned Him - v55 Fair Miter - a Miter is a turban. The word fair here = pure <sup>Holy</sup> He is referring to the head dress of the High Priest Ex 36:28-30 describes miter. It has written on it. "Holiness to the Lord" on front. God separates us out and gave us <sup>3</sup> responsibility to live out. 1 Peter 2:9. We were guilty and God out of his amazing grace cleansed clothes and

III The Glory of the Saint - Not only did God graciously cleanse, clothe, and crown Joshua, but he gave him a position with some thing to do. He made him the

high priest

**A. Actively for God** - God gave him a priest, a strong or intense charge. The charge was to walk in His ways, to keep his charge or stand watch over his ordinance. We are to follow after God and persevere him. To safe guard this commands in our heart. Jn 14:21 Jn 2:5 I think of Eph 2:8-9 For by Grace... then created into God works

**B. Authority of God** - Judge my laws keep my courts. God gave him the authority to do every act which He commanded him to do. God gave us his spirit to empower us God gave us his word to guide us, God placed us in his church to encourage and admonish us, to build us in our faith, to expand his Kingdom

**C. Access to God** - He gave him admittance into his presence. He just like the angels, has been granted access to come before God. Because of his cleansed state he is welcomed in to the presence of God, to have an audience with the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Heb 4:16 Let us come boldly

**IV Closing** - Standing before the Lord. If you suddenly found yourself standing before God in the supreme court of universe Would Christ claim you as his client? <sup>Repent</sup> Receive the



- 1) **John 14:21** He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him. **1 John 2:5** But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him.

Heb 4:13 Let us come boldly  
unto the throne of grace that  
we may obtain mercy, & find  
grace to help in time of need.